

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
ARIZONA STATE SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND**

Revised per Board Action on September 4, 2008

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 7, 2008

Berger Performing Arts Center

ASDB Tucson Campus

1200 W. Speedway

Tucson, AZ 85745

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The public meeting of the ASDB Board of Directors was called to order at approximately 5:10 p.m. by Board President Orlenda Roberts.

Present: Orlenda Roberts, Sami Hamed, Ray Mungaray, Mary Michaelis

Present via speakerphone: Sherri Collins, Frank Hernandez (disconnected at approximately 7:00 p.m.), Michael Williams (joined the meeting at approximately 5:50 p.m.); Kacey Gregson (joined the meeting at approximately 6:00 p.m.)

Absent: Juan Pablo Guzman

Board President moved agenda item VI.D. to accommodate students who were in attendance.

VI.D. Special Report – ASD Elementary and High School Reading Projects

Assistant Superintendent Robert Hill introduced Nancy Amann, Principal of the Arizona School for the Deaf (ASD).

While presenters were preparing, Orlenda Roberts introduced new Board member Mary Michaelis who spoke a little about her background.

Principal Nancy Amann introduced the ASD students and staff involved in the reading program. Presentations were made by Nina Bean, Erin Bunce, Tina Shartzter, Luke Howell, Brandon Howell, and Rose Adair.

Mr. Williams connected via speakerphone.

II. Public Comment on Agenda Items

Karen Feldman, ASDB SER employee, questioned the legality and prematurity of filling the SER Director position and requested that the Board postpone the issuance of a contract until the former Regional Director exhausts her appeal. Ms. Feldman also asked that the Board confirm the presence of Board members attending by phone.

Orlenda Roberts confirmed that Ms. Collins, Ms. Gregson, Mr. Williams were on the phone, and at this time Ms. Kacey Gregson also joined the meeting via speakerphone.

Doris Woltman, ASDB SER employee, requested the Board to review the emails she sent to correct the error made in the minutes regarding her final level grievance. She further stated that

Michael Williams responded to her email, though she did not believe he should have, stating that only the Board can change the minutes. She indicated she requested, but was not provide a copy of the audiotape because she was told no audiotape existed due to a mistake.

III. Business Agenda

- A. Conduct of Hearing in the Post-Termination Appeal by Ms. SueAnne McCreery for Consideration and Possible Action

It was moved by Michael Williams, seconded by Ray Mungaray, and unanimously carried:

That the Board of Directors refer the post-termination appeal hearing for Ms. SueAnne McCreery to the Office of Administrative Hearings to be scheduled at the earliest possible date.

Orlenda Roberts spoke to the issue.

- B. Superintendent's intent to Issue Employment Contract for PDSD Assistant Principal Position for Consideration and Possible Action

It was moved by Sami Hamed, seconded by Ray Mungaray, and unanimously carried:

That the Board of Directors appoint Ms. Ewan as Assistant Principal at the Phonenix Day School for the deaf and approve the issuance of a contract to Ms. Lisa Ewan.

Orlenda Roberts spoke to the issue.

- C. Superintendent's intent to Issue Employment Contract for SER Regional Director Position for Consideration and Possible Action

It was moved by Sami Hamed moved, seconded by Ray Mungaray, that the Board table this item indefinitely.

Sami Hamed moved to amend his original motion, seconded by Ray Mungaray, that the Board postpone matter for 30 days.

Sami Hamed moved to amend the amendment, seconded by Ray Mungaray, that the Board postpone this matter for 60 days.

Upon discussion, Mary Michaelis called for the question which was carried with a vote of 7 in favor and 1 opposed (Michael Williams).

The Board voted on the motion on the table. The motion failed with a vote of 4 in favor (Sami Hamed, Frank Hernandez, Ray Mungaray, Mary Michaelis) and 4 opposed (Michael Williams, Kacey Gregson, Sherri Collins, Orlenda Roberts).

It was moved by Michael Williams, seconded by Orlenda Roberts to postpone this matter for 2 weeks to get update and legal advice in special meeting executive session,

A substitute motion was made by Frank Hernandez, seconded by Sami Hamed, that the Board revisit the issue at the September Board meeting. The motion failed with a vote of 4 in favor (Frank Hernandez, Sami Hamed, Mary Michaelis, Ray Mungaray) and 4 opposed (Kacey Gregson, Sherri Collins, Michael Williams, Orlenda Roberts).

Upon return to the motion on the table, Orlenda Roberts withdrew her second, and Michael Williams withdrew his motion.

Absent a majority vote in this matter, the Board moved on to the next agenda item.

Discussion Highlights: To issue or not issue a contract for the vacant SER Director position in light of the post-termination appeal of former Regional Director, the need to fill the vacant position, and the possible need for legal advice in this matter.

Orlenda Roberts, Mary Michaelis, Ray Mungaray, Sami Hamed, Michael Williams, Sherri Collins, Robert Hill, Kacey Gregson, Frank Hernandez, and Lauren Peirce spoke to the issue.

D. Approval of FY09 Trust Fund Allocation to Schools and Initial Expenditure of Trust Funds for Consideration and Possible Action

It was moved by Sami Hamed, seconded by Ray Mungaray, and unanimously carried:

That the Board of Directors approve the Trust Fund allocation of \$100,000 to the Schools for FY 09 as recommended by the Superintendent.

It was moved by Sami Hamed, seconded by Ray Mungaray, and unanimously carried:

That the Board of Directors approve an initial request to expend Trust Funds in the amount of \$6,000 and directs the Superintendent to submit further FY 09 request for Trust Funds to the Board for approval.

Sami Hamed, Frank Hernandez, and Orlenda Roberts spoke to the issue.

V. Consent Agenda for Consideration and Possible Action

A. Confirmation of June, 2008 Board Meeting Minutes

B. Approval of Contracts and/or Agreements with Red Rock Elementary School District #5, Desert Springs Academy, Pearce Elementary School, Santa Cruz Valley Unified School District #35, Saddle Mountain Unified School District, Holbrook Unified School District, Naco Elementary District No. 23, Patagonia Elementary School District No. 6, Bowie Unified School District #14, Sunnyside Unified School District No. 12, Thatcher Unified School District #4, Casa Grande Elementary School District, Mammoth-San Manuel Unified School District, Amphitheater Unified School District #10 for transportation services and the Arizona Department of Education for interpreter

performance assessment testing support to educational sign language interpreters who are employed full or part time directly by Arizona Schools.

- C. Approval of donations and grants from the estate of Frederick Gates, the Tucson Foothills Sertoma Club, Valley of the Sun United Way and Sam's Club Foundation.

It was moved by Ray Mungaray, seconded by Frank Hernandez, and approved with a vote of 7 in favor and 1 opposed (Sherri Collins):

That the Board approve consent agenda items B and C, and go back to A to discuss further

It was moved by Sami Hamed, seconded by Michael Williams, and carried by a majority vote of 7 in favor and 1 abstention (Mary Michaelis) that the Board of directors table consent agenda item A until the next Board meeting so we can look at the emails we got and make a decision.

Mary Michaelis, Michael Williams, Sami Hamed, Frank Hernandez, Ray Mungaray, Orlenda Roberts, Kacey Gregson, Sherri Collins and Lauren Peirce spoke to the issue.

VI. Superintendent's Report for Consideration and Possible Action

A. Summary of Current Events

In the absence of Superintendent Harold Hoff, Assistant Superintendent Robert Hill introduced Lisa Jackson, Accountability Specialist, who provided an update on trends of ASDB students as it relates to Arizona Aims student achievement standards.

Frank Hernandez disconnected at approximately 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Hill provided a brief summary of current events including student enrollment, start of school activities, upcoming open house, new buildings, and tours offered to Board members of new buildings.

B. Monthly Financial Review for Consideration and Possible Action

Assistant Program Director Mark Carroll provided a report including but not limited to ASDB's FY08 and FY 09 financial status, the State of Arizona's budget deficit, the State-mandated reductions made in ASDB's budget, the requested for extension for submission of ASDB's budget for 2010-2011 to allow Board to review and approve at the September Board meeting.

Mary Michaelis, Ray Mungaray, and Orlenda Roberts spoke to the issue.

C. FY 08 Fourth Quarter Personnel New Hire and Turnover Reports for Consideration and Possible Action

VII. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

Dorinda Rife, ASDB ASB employee, thanked Superintendent Dr. Hoff for doing his job and lobbying in the best interests of ASDB. Ms. Rife urged the Board to end their requests that the Superintendent report back on the continuous lobbying by individuals and groups for their own special interests and focus on the more important issues; to end the rude exchanges, shouting matches, and heckling at Board meetings; to remain unbiased throughout the meetings; and for improved communication.

Doris Woltman, ASDB SER employee, voiced for the record, her concerns that documents were added to her final level grievance by Lauren Peirce who had no right to do this. Ms. Woltman also stated she has reason to believe that Ms. Collins was in contact with Dr. Hoff and Lauren Peirce though Board members were directed to have no contact with anyone in administration regarding the investigation and final level grievance.

VIII. Adjournment

It was moved by Sami Hamed, seconded by Sherri Collins, and unanimously carried

That the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:20 p.m.